THE EXCITER

Formerly Called Gutter Dope, Established in 1934.

Published Free of Charge Monthly by The San Antonio Radio Club.

VOL. 2, No. 7 JULY, 1959 SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

VHF and UP

June was a usual good month for Sporadic E. On many days 50 mc. was open to parts of the country all day long, often past midnight as reported by K5GEH.

The VHF Contest on 13 and 14 June attracted many of the 50 mc. gang. K5VLE was operated by K5PWX, K5JFN and K5RNW for the Six Meter Club of SA. They worked 50 different stations in 7 ARRL sections, as did W5HYN. W5KRH worked only 6 hours but had 35 contacts in 5 sections.

K5OOJ worked only a bit also but got VE7AQQ in British Columbia and W7UGH in Washington state via double hop Es. He also hooked stations in N.Y., N.J. and rare Rhode Island.

50 mc. WAS is harder than ever to get with Alaska and Hawaii being added to the list. Since these are F2-type states, they generally can be contacted for only about 3 years out of every 11. This makes the going rather slow for the WAS award. But there is the possibility of 50 mc. moon bounce. As for the power, this isn't too difficult to do. The Naval Research Lab has had voice contact via the moon using only 100 watts at several hundred mc. However, the antenna used was a 240 ft. dish scooped out of the ground! (What a swimming pool!)

On the satellite side, Sputnik III continues to be received well throughout the world. It also uses solar cells, as does Vanguard I, but charges chemical batteries which switch to transmit when not in sunlight. The two ton satellite was launched on 15 May 1958 and is expected to stay up for another half year or so.

The signal on 20.0045 mc. is a series of dit-dah's (originally L's) and can be received for 5 to 15 minutes on a pass as observed by the writer. There are 2 to 3 passes in the morning and evening. The signal is not as strong as Sputnik I and II but can be easil received just above WWV-20. A very weak 2nd harmonic on 40.009 mc. on occasion be picked up by sensitive equipment. Sputnik I and II used separate transmitters on 40.002 mc. Drop me a card or give me a buzz on what you've been doing on VHF.

Good luck.

Cal Graf, W5LFM
207 Addax Drive
DI-4-5032

CLUB MEETINGS

The meeting place for the San Antonio Radio Club is to remain at least for the present at the Gunter Hotel.

The last meeting was enjoyed by a nice crowd considering that it was on convention week-end.

The door prizes donated by Radio and T.V. Parts Company, were won by Aileen Turnage, and Sid Bourguois.

These door prizes that have been donated by Modern Radio, Radio and T.V. Parts Co. and Bill Case Records and Sound have really been appreciated by the members and visitors. You don't have to be a member to win a door prize. All you have to do is be there. That's not much of a pre-requisite; because most of the gifts that are won are really nice, and the nice part of it is that they are all useful.

So get in touch with your friends and all come out to the Club meetings. They are held each First and Third Friday at the Gunter Hotel.

DX

The DXpedition season seems to be in full swing. The trend toward this type of operation seems to be increas-

ing all the time and it sometimes makes a person wonder just what is the point in it all. They are fun to work as the operators are usually very proficient and the equipment taken on most of these affairs more often than not puts out a terrific signal—with the result that things move along quite rapidly. They are an answer to the would be DXer that just doesn't have the time and patience to sit at the old rig several hours each day to catch the relatively inactive countries and they have certainly added many new ones to this writer's log. But I sometimes wonder if it isn't being overdone and is rather unfair to the DXer that has spent many years building up his DX score. If the expedition is to a new country where there has never been any activity, most of the top DXers will get him anyway so all that is done is a change in the absolute numbers of countries rather than the position relative to another DXer. A form of inflation! So what difference does it make if they count Podunk Is. as a new country or not? If you got it, chances are that everyone else did also and you are still in the same relative DX position but if you happened to be out of town that week end or didn't get the word on the proposed operation, you are just out of luck. It may be years before anyone is able to find that particular sand bar again.

Meanwhile, ZL3DX provided many of us with new ones during his stops at VR5AC and ZM6AC with operation on SSB and CW. EA9DE is currently on an expedition to Ifni and Rio de Oro. He operates SSB and CW but listens for AM also. Worked him on 20 AM and SSB. An expedition should be under way now to Socorro Is., XE4B, but haven't heard them yet. OH1RX and OH1SS are going to Aaland Is. starting around July 3 using their calls /0 and 14080 and 21080. LA6VC planning SSB operation from Spitzenberg and Jan

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LOTS OF OTHER BARGAINS, COME IN AND SEE THEM.

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"HANK" K5HYF, Mgr.

Mayen in July and August. The later 2 items via WGDXC Bulletin, W5IAH Editor. 73

Derwin, W5LUU

SARC Ladies Club

The SARC Ladies Club held election of officers in May. The following were elected. Pres. Ethel Chastain; Vice Pres. Mary Carmack; Sec. & Tres. Lou Durst. We also voted to hold one formal meeting the first Friday of the month to be held at the Gunter Hotel, Mez. C at 8 PM, and the 3rd Friday meeting will be an informal meeting either at one of the ladies' houses or wherever the girls want to meet. Last month the girls worked on shirts for the OM's for field day. Those boys are really going to be dolled up. On our July 3rd meeting we will work on aprons to be presented to club members. If you have any old scraps of material please bring them.

Our thanks to the Dave Cadena's for the very wonderful party at Skippers in May. A grand time was had by one and all.

Some of the licensed YL's have started a net in San Antonio, the purpose of which is to meet more licensed XYL's on the air. We wish to invite all the San Antonio girls to join us. It is not limited to San Antonio alone but we would like to hear more of you girls and heartily invite you to join us. We meet each Friday morning at 9 o'clock on 7235 or 7250. If for some reason you cannot join us let us know and we will try to set up another date and time that will be more suitable for everyone. The following girls have been checking in; W5WXT Inez; W5TSE Ella; K5GCT Evelyn; K5OPT Ruth; K5OPS Ethel; W5DIV Ann in Refugio. A few other girls have checked in and we have really enjoyed meeting and talking with them. So come on girls let's all join in and have a realy party on the air.

MOBILE

The mobiles really moved into Galveston for the convention, and all the bands had a lot of activity. Some of the group from San Antonio were W5VPQ, W5THU, W5LFG, K5-OCW, K5ABL, K5GUH, and W5E-JT. There were others from this area, but the mobile QRM was rough and we have forgotten some of the calls too.

During the convention, a mobile session was held on Transistor Power Supplies, and was conducted by Jim Sears of Accurate Instrument Co. His demonstration of high voltage power supplies had everyone thinking in terms of a kilowatt mobile.

There was a transmitter hunt held on 75 and W5LFG placed second, which netted him a pair of 6146's.

The next transmitter hunt will be held here in San Antonio on Sunday, July 5 and will start from Olmos Park at 1:30 in the afternoon. Denny K9GIR is going to hide the transmitter.

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Paul	Jim	Rod	Fro
K5OHG	K5TYI	K5BGB	W5FY

The last hunt was held on June 7 with Gene W5EJT coming first, W5-OZQ and K9GIR together coming in second, and W5DFK placing third. We will be talking to you on the bands till press time next month.

Gene

GUTTER DOPE

Noticed in some of the stores lately the presence of some Collins PTO units. They sure do make some fine VFO's. I think they are reasonably priced too.

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